

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

In the Official Action, the Examiner rejects claims 1-5, 7, 9, and 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by World Patent No. WO 99/455511 to Nayar et al., (hereinafter “Nayar”). In response, Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner’s rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) for at least the reasons set forth below.

In response to the previous Official Action, independent claims 1 and 7 were amended to recite the features of claims 6 and 8, respectively, arguing that Nayar does not disclose or suggest "the processor includes means for receiving calibration data that defines particular operational characteristics of the stationary and controlled cameras."

In the Final Official Action, the Examiner argues that Nayar discloses at page 11, lines 27-29 that Nayar discloses such a feature in that the pan, tilt, and zoom settings can be interpreted as calibration data since the camera must be moved to a specific location by a specific command. The Examiner further argues that Sergeant et al. (US 5,627,616), whose teachings are incorporated by reference into Nayar, discloses a controlled camera system that is provided with calibration data (citing column 9, lines 10-32). Applicants disagree with the Examiner's reading of the Nayar and Sergeant et al. references.

Nayar discloses at page 11, lines 27-29 that the coordinate mapping system 70 provides appropriate pan, tilt, and zoom settings to the PTZ system 20, so that the PTZ system is directed to view the region of interest. Thus, the pan, zoom, and tilt settings are a control signal supplied to the PTZ camera to control the same to direct it to view a particular object of interest. This is in stark contrast to the calibration data as recited in claims 1 and 7.

Page 5, lines 12-17 of the present application discuss a preferred embodiment of the present invention in which the processor is programmed with software that realizes optical flow techniques that allow the camera system 10 to align the views from the stationary 12 and mechanical camera 14. In this context, the specification discusses the processor including means for receiving calibration data that defines particular operational characteristics of the camera 12, 14. Thus, the calibration data is defined in the specification and the claims as defining operational characteristics of the cameras, for example, for use in aligning the views of the cameras using the optical flow techniques. In this context, the operational characteristics of the cameras cannot be considered the control signals for operating the cameras. The signals described in Nayar merely control the camera's motors to direct the camera accordingly; they in no way define operational characteristics of the cameras.

Furthermore, the recited portion of Sergeant et al., discloses a mechanical stop mounted in the camera itself to recognize a home position of the camera. This configuration does not disclose receiving calibration data defining operational characteristics of the camera.

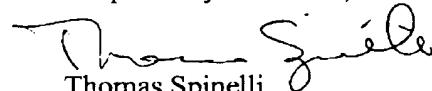
Therefore, a camera system and method for operation thereof having the features described above and as recited in independent claims 1 and 7, is nowhere disclosed in Nayar. Since it has been decided that "anticipation requires the presence in a single prior art reference, disclosure of each and every element of the claimed invention, arranged as in the claim,"¹ independent claims 1 and 7 are not anticipated by Nayar. Accordingly, independent claims 1 and 7 patentably distinguish over Nayar and are allowable. Claims 2-5, 9, and 10 being dependent upon claims 1 and 7, are thus allowable therewith. Consequently, the

¹ Lindeman Maschinenfabrik GMBH v. American Hoist and Derrick Company, 730 F.2d 1452, 1458; 221 U.S.P.Q. 481, 485 (Fed. Cir., 1984).

Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejection of claims 1-5, 7, 9, and 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this application be allowed and a Notice of Allowance issued. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with Applicant's attorneys would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,


Thomas Spinelli
Registration No. 39,533

Scully, Scott, Murphy & Presser
400 Garden City Plaza
Garden City, New York 11530
(516) 742-4343
TS/cm

FAX RECEIVED

4/16/03 10:46:34

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 280